

March 2009 Press Clips

1. DOWNEAST COASTAL PRESS

CUTLER,ME (2,987)

03-30-2009

Milbridge Businesswoman to Be Recognized By Governor

2. DOWNEAST COASTAL PRESS

CUTLER,ME (2,987)

03-30-2009

Columbia Falls News

3. TIMES RECORD

BRUNSWICK,ME (11,441)

03-19-2009

House backs service bill

4. KENNEBEC JOURNAL

AUGUSTA,ME (14,859)

03-21-2009

50-somethings' encore careers a chance to effect social change

5. TIMES RECORD

BRUNSWICK,ME (11,441)

03-16-2009

Read Aloud features some 280 volunteers

6. WISCASSET NEWSPAPER

BOOTHBAY HARBOR,ME (1,300)

03-12-2009

Wiscasset Senior Center

7. SCARBOROUGH LEADER

SCARBOROUGH,ME (8,000)

03-13-2009

Grant peer reviewers sought

8. TIMES RECORD

BRUNSWICK,ME (11,441)

03-13-2009

Bowdoin student opts for volunteer teaching

9. BOOTHBAY REGISTER

BOOTHBAY HARBOR,ME (4,986)

03-12-2009

Wiscasset Senior Center

10. WISCASSET NEWSPAPER

BOOTHBAY HARBOR,ME (1,300)

03-12-2009

Read Aloud weathers storm

11. HERALD GAZETTE

ROCKLAND,ME (N/A)

03-14-2009

AmeriCorps volunteer leads science programs at Herring Gut Learning Center

12. YORK COUNTY COAST STAR

KENNEBUNK,ME (15,000)

03-12-2009

Also inside

13. YORK COUNTY COAST STAR

KENNEBUNK,ME (15,000)

03-12-2009

Volunteers help with local conservation projects

14. FREE PRESS

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03-12-2009

Photo Contest to Celebrate Volunteerism

15. KENNEBUNK POST

BIDDEFORD,ME (10,000)

03-13-2009

Calendar Events

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Americorps housing needed for summer

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From Augusta

19. CAPITAL WEEKLY

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Seeking photos of volunteers in action

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Meserve serves in Wells

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Volunteers can help pull U.S. out of the muck

22. KENNEBEC JOURNAL

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Panel seeks grant reviewers

23. PORTLAND PRESS-HERALD (FINAL)

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03-04-2009

PORTLAND

24. KENNEBEC JOURNAL

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Volunteers can help pull U.S. out of the muck

25. PISCATAQUIS OBSERVER

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03-04-2009

Volunteers in action photo contest announced

26. DOWNEAST COASTAL PRESS

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03-09-2009

Recent W.A. Grad One of 1,465 Young Leaders "Giving a Year to Change the World"

27. WEEKLY

BANGOR,ME (38,600)

02-26-2009

Community news

28. Kennebec (ME) Journal

AUGUSTA,MAINE (73,642)

03-05-2009

Panel seeks grant reviewers

29. CASTINE PATRIOT

CASTINE,ME (1,100)

02-26-2009

Local man serving as environmental teacher with conservation corps

30. SOUTH PORTLAND-CAPE ELIZABETH SENTRY

SOUTH PORTLAND,ME (74,300)

02-27-2009

Volunteer photo contest announced

31. WISCASSET NEWSPAPER

BOOTHBAY HARBOR,ME (1,300)

02-26-2009

Photo contest focuses on volunteers

32. WISCASSET NEWSPAPER

BOOTHBAY HARBOR,ME (1,300)

02-26-2009

Volunteers in Action photo contest announced

33. WEEKLY

BANGOR,ME (38,600)

02-26-2009

Volunteerism photo contest

34. DOWNEAST COASTAL PRESS

CUTLER,ME (2,987)

03-02-2009

Photo Contest

35. SANFORD NEWS

SANFORD,ME (7,027)

02-26-2009

State seeking snapshots of volunteerism

Milbridge Businesswoman to Be Recognized By Governor

BY PHIL DUGGAN

Not every telephone call received at the customer service desk will put a broad smile on a business owner's face. But the call Leola Carter, owner/operator of BaySide Shop 'n Save in Milbridge, took on St. Patrick's Day did just that. The state of Maine was calling and it wasn't to tell her they wanted more tax revenue. Instead, Carter learned that her business was to be the 2009 recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Service Award in the small business category.

Carter will receive the award at an April 21 ceremony in the Hall of Flags at the State Capitol. These service awards have been presented to Maine individuals and organizations for the past 22 years. The Maine Commission for Community Service administers the program, and as its Web site notes, "The Governor's Volunteer Service Awards have celebrated and recognized the exemplary work of Maine's most dedicated citizens."

BaySide has made enormous contributions in community service and other support, especially during the past two

years. Events and worthy causes that Carter and store employees played key roles in include the past two Milbridge Days celebrations, the 2008 Renaissance Faire, Christmas on Main Street, this week's Downeast Idol, upgrade projects at Misty Morning Stables, Hannaford Helps Schools program, and many other public events and fundraisers. Carter's team spirit is evident as she often uses her Main Street marquee to publicize community events, and even other businesses' enterprises.

Carter is vice president of the Milbridge Area Merchants Association and has helped forge a strong and productive team in that organization. BaySide received the association's "Business of the Year" award in 2007.

Although Carter learned of this award on St. Patrick's Day, her achievement is not a result of the "luck of the Irish" but rather from her work ethic, teamwork and a love for the Downeast community.

More details of BaySide's admirable work will be publicized after the April 21 ceremony in Augusta.



Columbia Falls News

BY JAN RHENOW

The Columbia Falls United Methodist Women's group was host of a town meeting supper on Tuesday, March 17, with a very good response. It is always good to see the people of the town gather to eat and socialize. From the reports that I received, the town meeting went well.

The Washington County Fuel & Food Assistance Alliance will meet at 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 25, at the Cobscook Community Learning Center in Trescott, 1.5 miles east of Whiting village off Route 189. For many of us this will be the first time to visit the Cobscook Com-

munity Learning Center and we look forward to an introduction to their programs and facility.

The meeting agenda includes these topics:

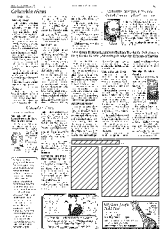
- Fuel Assistance: Faces and Facts, Corey Grout, AmeriCorps worker for the Fuel & Food Alliance and Maine Sea Coast Mission-Cherryfield.
- Homeless Initiative for Washington County Homeless Shelter Without Walls, Tim King.
- Weatherization program during the summer, Scott Shaw, Maine Sea Coast Mission-Cherryfield.
- Also: fuel co-op review, warming centers review and food pantry updates; state and national money flow for fuel, food, weatherizing and homeless families.

We hope to see many of you there to give support for this program.

The newly formed garden club had their initial organizational meeting on March 20. You'll be hearing more about future meetings, just in time to scratch that itch of getting some planting going. Stay tuned.

Please remember that Easter is coming early this year with Palm Sunday on April 5, Holy Thursday on April 9, Good Friday on April 10 and the celebration of Easter on April 12. Celebrate this joyous occasion at your home of worship.

Birthdays are Clara Driscoll, March 23; Owen Worcester; March 26; and Bonnie Pineo, March 30.



House backs service bill

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Tens of thousands of Americans could see more opportunities to mentor children, help rebuild homes and participate in other national service under a measure passed by the House on Wednesday.

The House voted 321-105 to expand AmeriCorps and other national service programs by 175,000 participants. It would also create new groups to help poor communities with education, clean energy, health and services for veterans.

Supporters say the effort comes at a time when more people are interested in serving their communities and more people could use the extra help.

A Senate committee approved an expansion Wednesday that was somewhat similar, adding 175,000 positions to the AmeriCorps alone. That bill, which triples the size of the program, could reach the Senate floor next week. President Barack Obama said he was pleased by the House's action and was eager for the Senate to pass the bill so he can sign it.



50-somethings' encore careers a chance to effect social change



A VIEW
FROM BOSTON

Ellen Goodman

BOSTON — Let me see if I have it right:

Older Americans ought to keep working in order to lighten the burden of Social Security and assorted benefits on younger generations.

Older Americans ought to retire in order to make room for younger generations with their noses pressed to the closed window of the job market.

There you go. If this is not the most mixed message to come out of this economic disaster, it will do for a start. The conflict between boomers and their offspring that was first ballyhooed in the 1990s seems to have re-emerged in new shapes and sounds all over depressed and recessed America.

So we now have studies such as the one from Northeastern University warning that "We have steadily increased the ranks of the employed with older workers and thrown the young out in the cold." And we have warnings from economists about the effects of the huge transfer of income from younger workers to older retirees. As Newsweek's Robert Samuelson put it, "Generational tension, and maybe generational war, is an inevitable part of the Age of Obama."

What exactly is going on here? And is there any way for elders to be peace-makers?

It is absolutely true that in the last 15 years, Americans began to work longer. Changes in Social Security en-

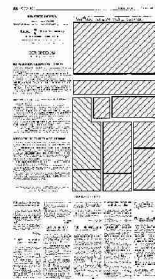
couraged it, as did longevity, as did, well, attitudes. Now the implosion of the stock market and the descent of 401(k)s into 201(k)s have put retirement somewhere over the rainbow.

You find stories in every sector of the older population. People who were ready to leave are hanging on to the jobs that other people expected to fill and so on down the line, freezing the job market in place. Older workers who lost their jobs face discrimination getting new ones. People coming out of retirement are searching for any job at all. I tip my hat to the chivalrous foodie bagging my groceries.

Meanwhile, the folks revving up generational conflict overlook the fact that most of us do not live or think in age cohort groups. We belong to families. If public money is transferred upward from younger workers to older retirees, private money flows downward from older parents to adult children and grandchildren. In this economy, some older workers are clinging on to their jobs to keep the younger unemployed members of their own families afloat.

But if the downturn comes with the seeds of generational conflict over jobs, it also carries packets of social change. There is a chance for the boomer generation to make a virtue — or a revolution — out of the necessity of working longer.

We already know that a growing corps of people in their 50s and 60s are more interested in renewal than retirement. Marc Freedman of Civic Ventures talks about "encore careers" for



those who want to bow out of their midlife careers and move into work with social value.

Now, he says hopefully, "The one benefit of this economic crisis is to drive home the reality that longer working lives are going to be necessary and desirable. If we can give people a sense that contributing longer is not another set of years at the grindstone but an opportunity to do something they can feel proud of, we'll have accomplished something significant."

That's still a big if. So far, there's been little help making the transition. But one innovative idea would make national service an onramp for encore careers. The bipartisan Serve America Act coming to the Senate floor next week not only expands AmeriCorps with its young and old population but provides model fellowships in 50 states that would help adults over 55 enter new areas where they're needed, such as education or the environment.

As Freedman says, we are just beginning. "We've had this half-century aimed at getting people out of the labor market. It was a vision of the American dream focused on the golden years. Now we need to come up with an equally compelling image that encourages people to work longer and directs them to areas most in need of talent."

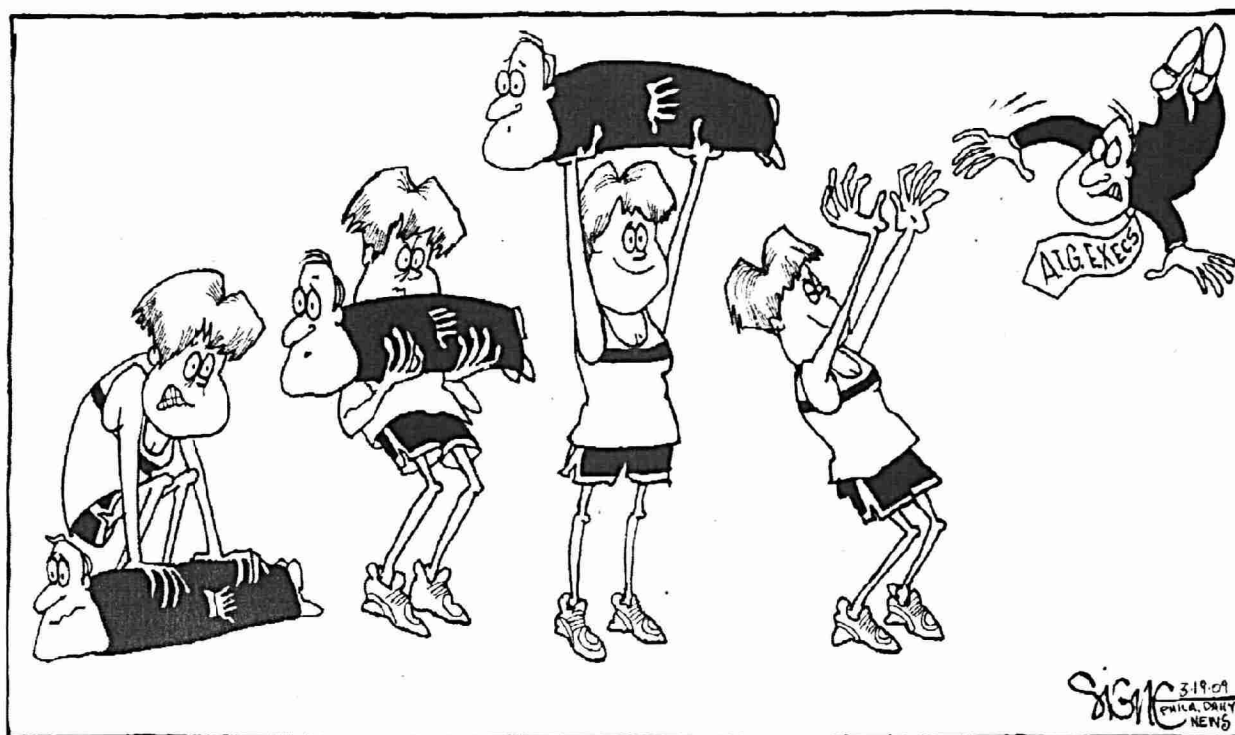
It's not surprising that this job falls to the baby boomers. The social-change generation led this country to think differently about race and gender. There is time and energy enough for the "youth" generation to make America think differently about age.

So, generational conflict? Not necessarily. Instead of being competitors we can be mentors in the changing business of aging.

*Ellen Goodman writes for The Boston Globe.
Send e-mail to ellengoodman@globe.com.*

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MARC FREEDMAN



Read Aloud features some 280 volunteers

The snowstorm on March 2 closed schools throughout the region, but did not stop this year's Community Read Aloud.

This annual event was scheduled for March 2, the anniversary of Dr. Seuss' birthday. Instead, many of this year's community volunteers were able to read the following day once weather improved. Others rescheduled their time with the children for another day within the next couple of weeks.

"This year marked our tenth annual Community Read Aloud," says Michael Wilhelm, chair of the Success By 6: Early Childhood Council at United Way of Mid Coast Maine that hosts this community event.

Wilhelm, superintendent of School Administrative Dis-

trict 75, stated he was pleased with the turnout of volunteers and the participation of so many elementary schools and child care sites.

This year, 280 community volunteers signed up to share their favorite children's books with approximately 4,500 children in Mid Coast school classrooms, Head Start centers and child care sites.

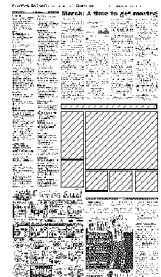
Volunteers read with children in 22 elementary schools in Brunswick, Bowdoinham, Topsham, Harpswell, Bath, West Bath, Phippsburg, Woolwich, Georgetown and Lincoln County communities. In addition, 32 child care and preschool sites also hosted volunteers.

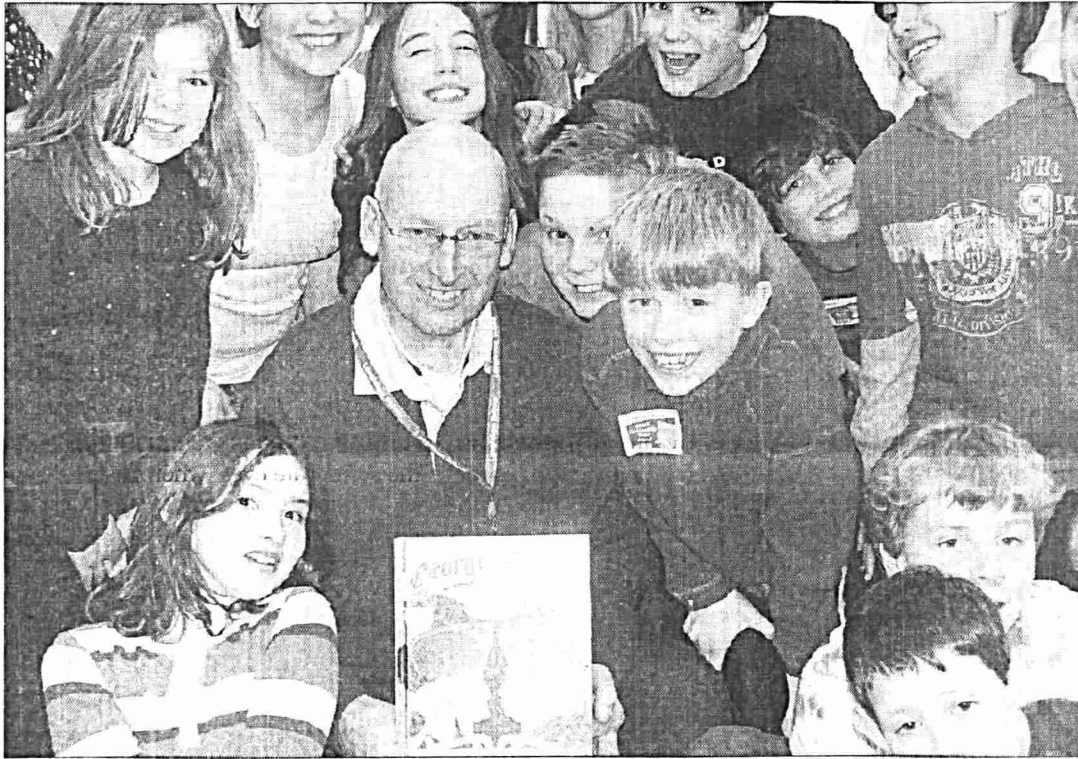
"We had a great group of volunteers this year and I would

like to thank them for their extra effort and dedication to work out an alternate time with their school or child care because of the snowstorm," says Carlie Geiger, the coordinator of this year's event.

This year's Community Read Aloud was sponsored by Comcast. Carlie Geiger, an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer working with Success By 6 at United Way of Mid Coast Maine, coordinated this year's event and matched the many volunteers to the reading sites throughout the Mid-coast region.

The Community Read Aloud is one of the ways Success By 6 promotes the importance of reading and sharing of stories with young children.





COURTESY OF CARLIE GEIGER

READER TIM MARTEL is shown with members of Marc Mazerolle's grade 5 class at Longfellow School in Brunswick during a visit for the annual Community Read Aloud.

Wiscasset Senior Center

By Doc Schilke
Wiscasset Senior Center

Last Wednesday the long awaited, much delayed bowling event finally took place. Eight of us met at the Yankee Lanes in Brunswick. The two women in the group were chosen as team captains and picked the members of their respective teams.

The teams were evenly matched with one winning two games and the other winning one game. The surprise outstanding bowler was Larry Roy who, although he uses a cane to get around, threw a pretty fast and accurate ball. Everyone else did about as well as they were expected to do. However, one bowler, who will remain unnamed, kept trying to attribute his bad play to a desire to keep the score close.

Last Thursday evening we had 31 in attendance to play cribbage. In the past couple of weeks, we have added a good half dozen new players. This is wonderful and the Cribbage Tournaments on Tuesday and Thursday are open to anyone who enjoys the game. It's getting a bit crowded especially on Thursday evening when we have just half the dinning room. We will not be able to use the whole room until this summer at the earliest so I ask everyone to be a little considerate of their neighbors as we wedge the tables closer together.

In addition, we ask all players to arrive 15 minutes before the scheduled start of play. We start promptly on time and anyone arriving late will be allowed to fit into an existing two or three handed table for the next game. Also late arrivals will not be eligible for prizes but will be asked to pay the 25 cents for coffee/use-of-room that everyone pays.

Next Monday we were scheduled to have shrimp salad rolls for lunch. However, several people said they

could have shrimp salad anytime so how about doing something different with the shrimp. Therefore, Steve will make some shrimp wiggle, an old-time Maine spring dish made with Maine shrimp and peas in a white sauce.

Now if you would like to see some other old-time Maine dish whipped up for lunch or dinner, be sure to fill out a suggestion form and give it to the cashier or mc. If possible, Steve will incorporate suggestions in future menus.

Have you looked at the new Community Center website? It is www.wiscassetrec.com During the last snow storm it served the community well by having a scrolling headline that said the building was closed on that day. The site is still being worked on and updates will be made.

It is sad to note the passing of Muriel Havenstein. I had the privilege and honor to meet her several years ago. She was one of those dynamic individuals who you immediately like. What struck me was her love of music and her willingness to help others if she could.

In the March issue of The Maine Commission for Community Service newsletter was the following note:

"Maine has 356,000 volunteers who contribute more than \$868 million annually to the state's economy. Maine ranks well above the national average in numbers of citizens who volunteer."

Many residents like Muriel have great talents and are willing to help in the community in which they live.

The cribbage tournament winners on Tuesday, March 3, were Blanche Johnson first, Keith Bachelder and Linden Simmons tied for second, Arlene Steen low score and Jean Lannan had the high hand. The cribbage tournament winners on Thursday, March 5, were Patty Bridgham first, Frank Redman second, Sherry Westfall low score and Charlie Preyer and Hal Thayer tied for the high hand.

Meals for next week
(Reservations, please! Call 882-

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Grant peer reviewers sought

The Maine Commission for Community Service seeks grant peer reviewers for its spring 2009 grant competition. The commission seeks a diverse group of reviewers with expertise in one or more of the following categories: national service, public safety, volunteer management or program design, environmental or energy conservation programs, housing, non-profit management, emergency management and service delivery in the areas of education, mentoring, and human needs.

Every three years the Maine Commission for Community Service conducts a major competition to determine which organizations will receive AmeriCorps funding. Awards go to applicants who submit strong proposals utilizing citizen service as a strategy to meet high priority community needs. Grant applications received are evaluated using a panel of volunteer experts.

The Maine Commission for Community Service has been the funder for AmeriCorps programs for 15 years. If you would like to serve as a grant peer reviewer please submit your application online at www.MaineServiceCommission.gov. For more information, contact Harold Shaw at 287-1588 or at harold.shaw@maine.gov by March 17 to be considered.



Bowdoin student opts for volunteer teaching

Associated Press

BRUNSWICK

Bowdoin College senior Ashley Fischer applied to Teach for America at its first deadline, but also weighed taking a consulting job. When she saw firms weren't hiring, it only solidified her decision to teach for two years.

Fischer will teach in a Newark, N.J., bilingual classroom next year.

"I wonder if I had gotten a consulting job, I would have been in a difficult position having to choose," said the New York City native, who has been a tutor and counselor at a special needs camp. "It was a big whirlwind of circular emotions, but now I'm really excited."

Volunteer organizations such as the Peace Corps and Teach for America say the floundering economy and President Barack Obama's call for service have led to a major increase in applications.

Teach for America received a record 14,000 applications by November, an almost 50 percent increase over the previous year. And Peace Corps applications rose 16 percent from fiscal year 2007 to 2008, with a big spike registered around the time of Obama's inauguration.

As a former community organizer, Obama advocated public

service throughout his campaign and encouraged Americans to spend Martin Luther King Jr. Day volunteering. Obama's administration also has several initiatives promoting service, including expanding the Peace Corps and AmeriCorps.

Like Fischer, Meghan McCloskey also heard the call to service when she was in college, applying to the Peace Corps during her senior year. That call only got louder as she realized her shrinking job options in the faltering economy.

"Just having some sort of security for two years and not going through the job application process every two months and internships until someone wants to pay you is good," said McCloskey, 23, an administrative assistant who completed the Peace Corps application process and is awaiting her country placement. "It's a good way to gain a lot of experience in a short amount of time and after the job I have now, I don't know if I could find another job in the economy."

When applying to Peace Corps, most college graduates speak

*Please see **OPTS**, Page C2*

first about their desire to serve. But they also learn a foreign language and gain valuable international experience that can further their future careers, organization spokeswoman Laura Lartigue said.

"They come out on the other end with really good skills that make them competitive in the job market," she said.

Many of this year's applicants got a taste of volunteering while in school, making the thought of spending more than two years serving abroad a less daunting, Lartigue said.

Michael Brown, CEO and co-founder of the nonprofit

City Year in Boston, said it's not just the sour economy and lack of jobs that's contributed to the jump in volunteerism.

His organization, which places young adults as tutors and mentors for schoolchildren for a year, has seen applications jump from about 500 to almost 1,600 year-on-year.

"It's not just a matter of needing employment, which I think is still important, but there's something in a declining economy that clarifies all our values," Brown said. "Young folks are saying, 'I'm needed more than ever because I'm needed in this economy. Now is the time I



should go do this.”

Teach for America recruits heavily at college campuses. Now with banks and investment firms scaling back hiring, more students are considering teaching for two years, spokeswoman Amy Rabinowitz said.

“This year is tough for everybody,” Rabinowitz said. “We haven’t seen an environment like this in 30 years, but we aggressively go after folks we think of as the most talented people and look for those types of people to be in the classroom. That’s what makes us optimistic for the year.”

McCloskey, who thinks she might be placed in sub-Saharan Africa because of her French language skills, said serving those in need abroad is still at the root of her choice.

“I want to experience life without the luxuries you take for granted as Americans and live closer to earth and see what it’s like to rely on the earth every day for your existence,” McCloskey said. “Being born in America, specifically, you just don’t realize the rest of world lives differently.”

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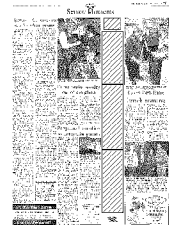
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Read Aloud weathers storm

Submitted By Carlie Geiger

Success by 6

United Way Mid Coast Maine

The snowstorm last Monday closed schools and child cares throughout the region, but did not stop this year's Community Read Aloud. This annual event was scheduled for March 2, the anniversary of Dr. Seuss' birthday. But the good news is that many of this year's community volunteers were able to read the following day on Tuesday. Others rescheduled their time with the children for another day within the next couple of weeks.

"This year marked our tenth annual Community Read Aloud," says Michael Wilhelm, chair of the *Success By 6*: Early Childhood Council at United Way of Mid Coast Maine that hosts this community event. Wilhelm, who is Superintendent of MSAD 75, says he is so pleased once again with the turnout of volunteers and the participation of so many elementary schools and child care sites. "This is such a great way to highlight the importance of reading with young children. We thank all who read this year or hosted a reader. It is a great community event and wonderful for all the children involved."

This year, 280 community volunteers signed up to share their favorite children's books with approximately 4,500 children in Mid Coast school classrooms, Head Start centers, and child care sites. "We had a great

group of volunteers this year and I would like to thank them for their extra effort and dedication to work out an alternate time with their school or child care because of the snowstorm," says Carlie Geiger, the coordinator of this year's event.

Volunteers read with children in twenty-two elementary schools, including Wiscasset Primary School and Woolwich Central School. In addition, thirty-two child care and pre-school sites, including Wiscasset Head Start, hosted volunteers.

This year's Community Read Aloud was sponsored by Comcast. Carlie Geiger, an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer working with *Success By 6* at United Way of Mid Coast Maine, coordinated this year's event and matched the many volunteers to the reading sites throughout the Mid Coast region.

Success By 6, a community-wide partnership at United Way of Mid Coast Maine, is dedicated to ensuring that all area children get the best possible start in life, with the support of their families and the whole community. *Success By 6* seeks to increase supports to parents, especially through home visiting services; to increase high-quality, affordable, and accessible child care; to promote reading to infants and young children; and to help all children enter school ready to learn and succeed. The Community Read Aloud is one of the ways *Success By 6* promotes the importance of reading and sharing of stories with young children.



AmeriCorps volunteer leads science programs at Herring Gut Learning Center

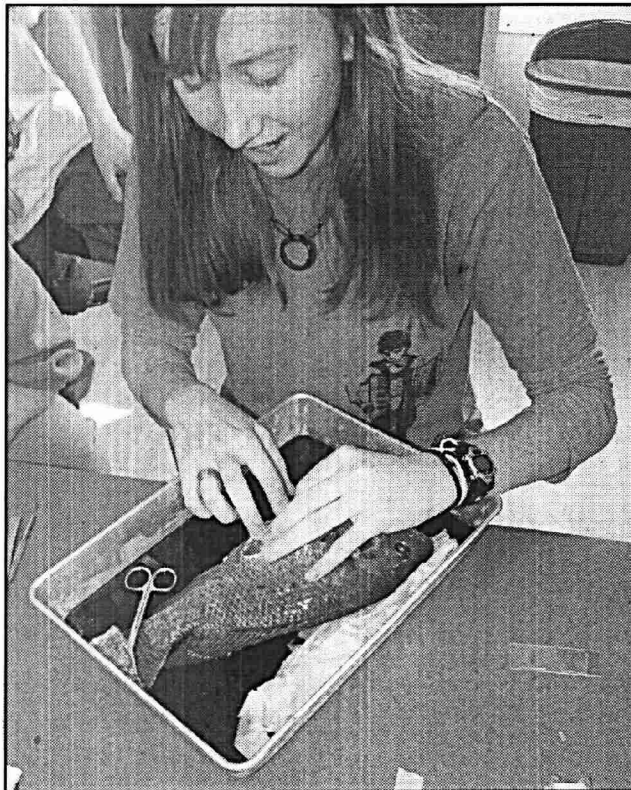
PORT CLYDE — Sara Rademaker of Fort Wayne, Ind., has been serving since January as an environmental educator and AmeriCorps volunteer with the Maine Conservation Corps at the Herring Gut Learning Center in Port Clyde.

Rademaker is focusing on organizing marine science summer programs and outreach for the community, as well as helping with classes that teach science through aquaculture. Her students are raising tilapia, oysters and trout.

The Maine Conservation Corps places AmeriCorps volunteers throughout Maine to complete conservation and environmental education projects. Rademaker is a 2007 graduate of Auburn University where she received a bachelor's degree in fisheries and aquaculture.

For more information about the Herring Gut Learning Center visit herringgut.org or contact Rademaker at srademaker@roadrunner.com.

Sara Rademaker
dissects a fish.



Also inside

KENNEBUNK: Selectmen delay 911 services decision again, **A3**

KENNEBUNKPORT: Town budget proposal rolls back spending to below 2009 levels, **A3**

WELLS: AmeriCorps volunteers helping out at Laudholm Farm, Wells Reserve, **A4**

OGUNQUIT: Citizen's petition calls for a moratorium on town sign ordinance, **A5**



Volunteers help with local conservation projects

WELLS — The town of Wells currently has four environmental educators from the Maine Conservation Corps serving as AmeriCorps members with local organizations. The Maine Conservation Corps places AmeriCorps volunteers throughout Maine to complete conservation and environmental education projects.

Bob Costa of Norwell, Mass., and Molly Meserve of Kennebunk, are serving at the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge in Wells. Meserve also served as a Maine Conservation Corps environmental educator in 2008 in Baxter State Park.

Some of the projects Costa and Meserve are working on include restoring New England Cottontails to southern Maine, building a self-composting rest room for visitors of the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge headquarters, and building an interpretive trail. The pair also is planning outreach programs focusing on piping plovers and least terns.

To learn more about the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge visit rachelcarson.fws.gov.

Costa and Meserve can be contacted at Robert_Costa@fws.gov and Margaret_Meserve@fws.gov.

Jacob Aman of Brookline and Meribeth Ratzel of Harwich, Mass., are serving at the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve in Wells.

Aman also served as a Maine Conservation Corps environmental educator at the Reserve in 2008.

Some of the projects they are currently working on include coordinating 14 teams of volunteers who monitor sand erosion in York County, developing a river restoration plan to reestablish migratory fish species, and doing community presentations on how to protect local water quality.

To learn more about the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve visit www.nerrrs.noaa.gov/WellsBay/welcome.html.

Aman and Ratzel may be reached at jacobaman@wellsnerr.org and meri@wellsnerr.org.

More information about the Maine Conservation Corps can be found at www.maine.gov/doc/parks/mcc.

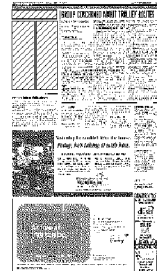


Photo Contest to Celebrate Volunteerism

The Maine Commission for Community Service announces a photo contest celebrating volunteerism in the state of Maine. This year's theme is Volunteers in Action.

Individuals are invited to submit a photo depicting volunteers serving the community. Entries are due by Wednesday, March 18. For full contest rules and information on how to enter, visit www.maineservicecommission.gov.

Winning entries and honorable mentions will be displayed at the State House during the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards on April 21.



Deadline to sign up with the Maine Commission for Community Service grant peer reviewers for its Spring 2009 grant competition to determine which organizations will receive AmeriCorps funding. To serve as a grant peer reviewer, submit an application online at www.MaineServiceCommission.gov.

MaineServiceCommission.gov. FMI, contact Harold Shaw at 287-1588.



Wiscasset Senior Center

By Doc Schilke

Last Wednesday the long awaited, much delayed bowling event finally took place. Eight of us met at the Yankee Lanes in Brunswick. The two women in the group were chosen as team captains and picked the members of their respective teams, which were evenly matched with one winning two games and the other winning one.

The surprise outstanding bowler was Larry Roy who, although he uses a cane to get around, threw a pretty fast and accurate ball. Everyone else did about as well as they were expected to do. However, one bowler, who will remain unnamed, kept trying to attribute his bad play to a desire to keep the score close.

Last Thursday evening we had 31 in attendance to play cribbage. In the past couple of weeks, we have added a good half dozen new players. This is wonderful and the cribbage tournaments on Tuesday and Thursday are open to anyone who enjoys the game. It's getting a bit crowded especially on Thursday evening when we have just half the dinning room. We will not be able to use the whole room until this summer at the earliest, so I ask everyone to be a little considerate of their neighbors as we wedge the tables closer together.

In addition, we ask all players to arrive 15 minutes before the

scheduled start of play. We start promptly on time and anyone arriving late will be allowed to fit into an existing two or three handed table for the next game. Also late arrivals will not be eligible for prizes but will be asked to pay the 25 cents for coffee/use-of-room that everyone pays.

Next Monday we were scheduled to have shrimp salad rolls for lunch. However, several people said they could have shrimp salad anytime so how about doing something different with the shrimp? Therefore, Steve will make some shrimp wiggle. Shrimp wiggle made with Maine shrimp and peas in a white sauce is supposed to be an old-time Maine spring dish.

Now if you would like to see some other old-time Maine dishes whipped up for lunch or dinner, be sure to fill out a suggestion form and give it to the cashier. If possible, Steve will incorporate suggestions in future menus.

Have you looked at the new Community Center website? It is www.wiscassetrec.com. During the last snow storm it served the community well by having a scrolling headline that said the building was closed on that day. The site is still being worked on, and updates will be made.

It is sad to note the passing



of Muriel Havenstein. I had the privilege and honor to meet her several years ago. She was one of those dynamic individuals who you immediately liked. What struck me was her love of music and her willingness to help others if she could.

In the March issue of The Maine Commission for Community Service newsletter was the following note. "Maine has 356,000 volunteers who contribute more than \$868 million annually to the state's economy. Maine ranks well above the national average in numbers of citizens who volunteer." Many residents like Muriel have great talent and are willing to help in the community in which they live.

The cribbage tournament winners on March 3 were Blanche Johnson

first, Keith Bachelder and Linden Simmons tied for second, Arlene Steen low score, and Jean Lannan had the high hand. The cribbage tournament winners on March 5 were Patty Bridgham first, Frank Redman second, Sherry Westfall low score, and Charlie Preyer and Hal Thayer tied for the high hand.

Meals for next week, and please call 882-8230 at least two days in advance for meal reservations.

Mon., March 16 - Lunch, shrimp wiggle. Trustee meeting after lunch.

Tues., March 17 - Cribbage.

Wed., March 18 - 4:30 p.m. social hour, followed at 5:30 p.m. Community Dinner, prime rib.

Thurs., March 19 - Lunch is salad bar with soup.

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AmeriCorps housing needed for summer

SANFORD — Summer housing is needed again for Sanford to be eligible for a team of AmeriCorps volunteers.

Ideal housing would be near downtown Sanford — a donated apartment or house with at least three bedrooms, said Lee Burnett, who is coordinating the effort. It should have kitchen and shower facilities. Furniture would be nice, but not necessary, he added.

There are no funds available to pay rent. If housing can be arranged, the town could apply for a team of eight to 10 college-age youth from around the country to accomplish various service projects from about July 10 to Aug. 28.

Projects by AmeriCorps over the past two summers included trail-building, stream restoration, invasive species eradication, Mousam River cleanup, graffiti eradication and painting. This year's team would be working on similar projects alongside a group of local at-risk teens.

Anyone who can help or has questions can call Lee Burnett at Town Hall 608-4171 or e-mail him at llburnett@sanford-maine.org.

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From Augusta

By Staff

(March 12): **Track federal stimulus dollars at Web site**
Advertisement

The state has unveiled an improved version of a Web page dedicated to the federal recovery act. Through the site, mainerecovery.gov, Mainers can access up-to-date information about where and how federal recovery funds are dispersed.

The updated site offers information about state programs that will receive funding through the federal stimulus law; resources on stimulus allocation and expenditures; and access to agency specific stimulus Web pages and current stimulus data.

The public can offer comments and feedback through the site related to Maine's recovery spending.

"This Web site brings accountability and information to the public in an unprecedented fashion for the state of Maine," said Richard Thompson, Maine's chief information officer, in a press release. "Information will be updated frequently and more detailed data will be available on the site soon. Online services of this nature deliver on the state's commitment to using the Web to deliver information more efficiently, while having a significant public impact and making government more accessible."

Site visitors eventually will be able to view information about any project funded by stimulus funds, including total dollars allocated and spent, location, percent complete, and contract and payment details.

Volunteers in action photo contest

The Maine Commission for Community Service has announced a photo contest celebrating volunteerism in Maine. This year's theme is "Volunteers in Action."

Individuals are invited to submit a photo depicting volunteers serving the community. Entries are due by Wednesday, March 18. Winning entries and honorable mentions will be displayed at the State House during the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards on April 21.

The Governor's Volunteer Service Awards, administered jointly by the Maine Commission for Community Service and the governor's office, recognize and honor the valuable contributions of Maine's volunteers while inspiring others to follow their example.

For contest rules and to enter, visit maineservicecommission.gov.

Rep. Welsh honors children's illustrator Sweet

Rep. Joan Welsh, D-Camden, presented a legislative sentiment to Melissa Sweet of Rockport at the State House on Feb. 26. Sweet was honored for her 2009 Caldecott Honor Book "A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams," a picture book biography of poet William Carlos Williams. The Caldecott Medal and Honors are the highest achievements given to a children's picture book. The award is given annually by the American Library Association.

Sweet, of Rockport, is an illustrator of more than 40 children's books. She has received numerous awards, including having a book she authored and illustrated, "Carmine: A Little More Red," chosen as one of the 10 Best Illustrated Books of 2005 by the New York Times Book Review. Her book "The Boy who Drew Birds," a story about John James Audubon, was selected as one of the New York Public Library's Best Books for 2004.

Piotti advocates new approach to transportation, energy policy

House Majority Leader John Piotti said in a recent press release that there is one major missing piece to the conversation about energy efficiency in Maine: transportation policy. The state often reviews policies related to alternative energy, weatherization and home energy efficiencies, and making steps to improve these areas has been a priority for years, he said. What has not been addressed is the role of creating efficiencies in the transportation system.

"Fifty percent of our energy usage is transportation, and much of that is the use of automobiles," he said. "We have many efficiency programs in other areas of energy policy, but not much of it addresses transportation."

His bill, L.D. 847, would direct the Maine Department of Transportation to "evaluate existing transportation laws, rules and policies ... identifying their strengths and weaknesses and how they might be changed to meet the objective of saving energy."

The study would include the Executive Department, the State Planning Office and the Department of Environmental Protection. Other state agencies that determine land use patterns would also be included, along with the Maine Municipal Association, regional planning entities, metropolitan planning organizations, regional planning commissions and interest groups affected by those transportation laws, rules and policies.

Trahan co-sponsors pollution bill

Help could be on the way for Mainers who make their living harvesting clams, mussels, oysters and quahogs. Two Republican legislators report progress in brokering a deal to expedite the cleanup of contaminated shellfish flats. State Sen. David Trahan, R-Lincoln, is sponsoring a bill to overhaul Maine's water quality testing program within the Department of Marine Resources. State Rep. Dianne Tilton, R-Harrington, is the lead co-sponsor.

The legislation would direct state agencies to move more aggressively to identify and clean up sources of pollution that have led to frequent closings of shellfish flats along the Maine Coast.

"We're trying to protect a traditional Maine industry," said Tilton in a press release. "Shell fishing is a \$130 million business in Maine. Clamming alone brings in between \$50 million and \$60 million. The problem is that runoff from farms and storm-flooded sewer systems forces state regulators to close the flats for long periods of time. That presents a real hardship for Maine families who depend on shellfish harvesting for their livelihoods."

The legislation, L.R. 418, An Act Concerning Water Quality Testing of Shellfish Flats, also calls for a vote on a \$2 million bond for river cleanup to establish a dedicated fund that would operate under the jurisdiction of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The fund would be replenished by a \$2 annual assessment on public sewer bills.

"We don't see this as a partisan issue," said Trahan. "We see this as a matter of pulling together to reduce coastal pollution and making sure that shellfish harvesters can make a living."

The legislation would set up a dedicated, non-lapsing account that could accept funding from a variety of sources. The \$2 million bond, if passed by the voters in November, would be augmented by the \$2 annual fee on public sewer bills. All fines for overboard discharge violations would go to the fund. Fifty percent of all future increases in state shellfish licenses also would be deposited in the fund.

Richardson appointed to health systems advisory council

State Rep. Wes Richardson, R-Warren, has been appointed to Maine’s 19-member Advisory Council on Health Systems Development, which has a mandate to examine all facets of health insurance in the state. Speaker of the House Hannah Pingree made the appointment in late February.

“It’s a challenging assignment, but I look forward to getting started,” said Richardson in a press release. “The cost of health care and health insurance is one of the biggest problems in the state. This council is an official channel to make recommendations to maximize the benefit from our health-care dollars.”

The council was established as part of the legislation that created Dirigo Health and has been meeting monthly since 2003. The council is charged with measuring the current health-care system and finding ways to economize.

[Close](#) [Print](#)

Seeking photos of volunteers in action

AUGUSTA — All are invited to submit a photo depicting volunteers serving the community in a contest sponsored by the Maine Commission for Community Service.

Entries are due Wednesday, March 18. For full contest rules and information on how to enter, go to www.maineservicecommission.gov.

Winning entries and honorable mentions will be displayed at the Statehouse during the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards on Tuesday, April 21.

For the past 22 years, the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards have celebrated and recognized the exemplary work of Maine's most dedicated citizens. This award program,

administered jointly by the Maine Commission for Community Service and the Governor's Office, recognizes and honors the valuable contributions of Maine's extraordinary volunteers while inspiring others to follow their example.

To learn more about the Maine Commission for Community Service, go to the Web site listed above.

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Meserve serves in Wells

Earlier this year, the Maine Conservation Corps (MCC) welcomed Molly Meserve of Kennebunk, to serve as an environmental educator and AmeriCorps volunteer at the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge in Wells.

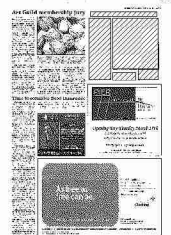
The corps places AmeriCorps volunteers throughout Maine to complete conservation and environmental education projects, and Meserve previously served with the corps in 2008 as an environmental educator in northern Maine's Baxter State Park. Meserve is the daughter of Dr. John and Jessica Meserve of Millinocket and she is a 2008 graduate of Guilford College in North Carolina where she received degrees in biology and German studies. At the Rachel Carson National



(Courtesy photo)

Wildlife Refuge, Meserve is working on several projects including assisting with New England cottontail surveys

and planning outreach programs focusing on piping plovers and least terns.



OUR OPINION

Volunteers can help pull U.S. out of the muck

The nation is ready for a renewed commitment to the public good. Our collective disgust has grown after witnessing the behavior of rapacious and unaccountable Wall Street hotshots. As that disgust has ballooned, so have the needs of our communities during a time of terrible economic stress.

Long before the word "volunteerism" even existed, there were volunteers.

They were the parents who ran Scout troops, the church ladies who put on suppers, the farmers who helped with barn raisings. They worked during spare hours and on their vacations and didn't even call attention to what they were doing. It was just what they were doing.

Now, though, we have elevated the concept of volunteerism; the latest version of it is called "community service." And the notion of what constitutes community service is broad. Retirees help with the IRS filings of their local Kiwanis Club. Students plant gardens and donate the produce to food banks. Recent college graduates spend a year or more teaching in inner cities or on Native American reservations. Doctors and dentists and physician's assistants bring health care to rural communities.

So while you can still find grandmothers who help shelve books at the library and native plant buffs who spend summers weeding in city parks, community service tends to have a more professional-sounding feel to it. It's more organized.

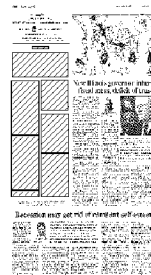
Commissions are set up to study and

promote it. And those who engage in it are often tackling problems normally addressed by people who get paychecks while philanthropists pay for coordinators to, well, coordinate it. In a sense, this is volunteerism that's really a job.

And we need all this volunteerism and community service. Our schools are in rough shape, our food pantries are overwhelmed with demand, our parks don't have enough staff or money for adequate maintenance and tens of thousands of poor, elderly citizens have homes that need weatherizing. These are just a handful of the unmet needs across our country — needs that volunteers can address.

With the nation's problems growing larger with each layoff, President Obama struck just the right note when he threw his support behind a bill last week that would encourage community service.

The bill, the "Serve America Act," is sponsored by the Odd Couple of American Politics, liberal Democratic Sen. Edward Kennedy and conservative Republican Sen. Orrin Hatch. It would encourage 175,000 more Americans to engage in a year of community service through a range of incentives including



education stipends provided to volunteers of certain programs like Ameri-corps and Vista.

These are programs that bring tangible benefits to Maine. The volunteers in these national service programs have built trails, compiled databases for community groups, implemented disaster preparedness initiatives, worked in rural health centers, responded to domestic violence incidents and provided companions to adults with special needs so that they can stay in their homes.

They've donated millions of hours of their time: In just one program during 2008, the Senior Corps, 2,378 volunteers donated 620,372 hours of their time, worth a total monetary value of \$12.1 million.

Altogether, the 29 national service volunteer programs in Maine had 9,100 volunteers serving in 2008 and brought in \$6.7 million in federal funds to support the programs. And the Americorps workers among that 2008 group of vol-

unteers were rewarded with \$880,000 in education awards.

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We can think of few better ways to redeem the destructive excesses of our most recent gilded age, and to pull Americans together in that most noble of tasks: bringing hope, opportunity and generosity into the places where they are least likely to be found.

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Panel seeks grant reviewers

STAFF REPORT

AUGUSTA — The Maine Commission for Community Service is accepting applications for grant peer reviewers.

Peer reviewers read grant applications and participate as part of a committee to select grant recipients.

Applicants' areas of expertise should include national service, public safety, volunteer management, environmental or energy conservation programs and nonprofit management.

Participants will need internet access, a phone line and voice-over-internet protocol. Registration is required. For information, call 287-1588.



PORTLAND

TD Banknorth's Charitable Foundation recently donated \$60,000 to local organizations in Cumberland County.

The following organizations received a donation:

■ **Habitat for Humanity of Greater Portland** will use its funds to support the AmeriCorps volunteer program.

■ **WinterKids** will use its funds to support a variety of outdoor pro-

Please see **BRIEFS**, Page B8

grams that promote physical activity and healthy lifestyles for children, families, and educators.

■ **The Children's Museum of Maine** will use its funds to support educational programming at the museum.

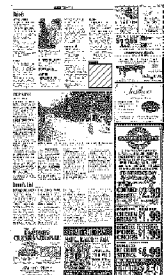
■ **The West End-Parkside Neighborhoods Mentoring Project** in Portland will use its grant to pair young students from Reiche School with students from Waynflete School.

The Portland School Committee has honored the following staff members for outstanding professional achievements:

Lorraine Bobinsky, Karen MacDonald, Emily Serway, Rebecca Stern and **Ann Young** achieved national teacher certification by meeting the standards set by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Bobinsky teaches at Reiche Elementary School. MacDonald teaches language arts, and Young is a math teacher at King Middle School. Serway is an art teacher at Riverton Elementary School, and Stern teaches social studies at Deering High School. The five Portland teachers are the first in Maine to meet national certification requirements.

Barbara Dee, the district's director of student support services, was chosen by her peers as Maine's Special Education Administrator of the Year. The award is presented by Maine Administrators of Services for Children with Disabilities.



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For the past twenty-two years, the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards have celebrated and recognized the exemplary work of Maine's most dedicated citizens. This award program, administered jointly by the

Maine Commission for Community Service and the Governor's Office, recognizes and honors the valuable contributions of Maine's extraordinary volunteers while inspiring others to follow their example. It is our sincere hope that photo submissions will serve to further highlight the impact of volunteer service on the state of Maine.

The Maine Commission for Community Service builds capacity and sustainability in Maine's volunteer sector by funding service programs, developing managers of volunteers, raising awareness of the scope and impact of the sector, and encouraging an ethic of service.

To learn more about the Maine Commission for Community Service visit our web-site at www.maineservicecommission.gov.

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Recent W.A. Grad One of 1,465 Young Leaders "Giving a Year to Change the World"

**Avram Reisman
of Cooper Participates
in City Year Before
Heading to Colby College**

BY FRED HASTINGS

Avram Reisman of Cooper has spent the last five months putting his ideals into action. The 17-year-old left home in September to participate in City Year, a 10-month program of young people like himself working with middle-school students. A 2008 graduate of Washington Academy in East Machias, Reisman was accepted at Colby College and deferred his enrollment to seek a year of community service work before matriculating.

In an interview during a recent visit home from his City Year work in southern New Hampshire, Reisman said he was looking for a "gap year" experience between high school and college, which would provide not only an opportunity to mature (he skipped a grade in grammar school) but to gain some real-world exposure and observation before throwing himself back into a cloistered academic setting for four years.

For Reisman, the gap year decision has been a good one. "I now know I like working with kids," he said, noting that he might pursue a teaching or other youth-oriented profession as a result of his City Year work. "I've enjoyed the experience thoroughly. [City Year] is a really great program. It will turn the world around."

City Year Program

Although many are familiar with AmeriCorps, the Peace Corps and VISTA, City Year is not a well-known community service program, in part because of its size. Whereas AmeriCorps has some 75,000 members working in hundreds of locales, City Year, which is affiliated with AmeriCorps, has about 1,465 working in 19 sites around the country.

According to its Web site (www.cityyear.org), City Year's motto is "Give a year. Change the world." Its stated vision is "that one day, a year of service will become an opportunity for and common expectation of every young person." City Year supports this vision in four primary ways:

- Uniting more than 1,400 young people, ages 17-24, for a demanding year of full-time community service, leadership development and civic engagement
- Inspiring citizen service through high-impact community events
- Leading discussion and development of national service policies and initiatives
- Expanding service opportunities around the world

The program is federally funded and also receives significant financial and other support from private businesses. From the federal government, each member receives a stipend of \$190 a week and an educational award of

\$4,725 for his or her 10 months of service, which can be repeated if a member puts in a second year. Timberlands Corporation, a major benefactor, provides each member with a bright red coat and other clothing, costing upward to \$1,200.

"The uniform is awesome," said Reisman. From his experience, it stands as "a powerful symbol," he said, for the middle-schoolers, called Young Heroes, who participate in the activities and who view the City Year corps members who wear it as role models. "We don't swear or chew gum when in uniform," he said.

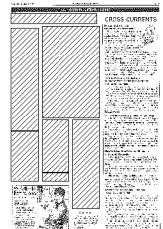
Other major corporate sponsors include T Mobile, which provides each corps member with a cell phone. Other sponsors include Pepsi, Bank of America and Cisco Systems.

Training, Activities Outlined

Reisman, who shares a rental property with two other City Year corps members—his first extended living experience away from home—said he spent the first month with City Year in training, learning about the service and working with teammates. About 60 percent of his teammates are just out of college and the rest, like him, just out of high school.

After the initial training, several months were spent recruiting about 50 middle-school students

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6





THE DOWNEAST COASTAL PRESS

AVRAM REISMAN, a 2008 graduate of Washington Academy in East Machias, holds a key ring with the logo of City Year, the AmeriCorps-affiliated community service agency he joined last fall, working with middle-schoolers in southern New Hampshire for 10 months before heading to Colby College in the fall.

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Community news

Got something for Community News? Send us the information.

E-mail: weekly@bangordailynews.net

Mail: The Weekly Calendar, P.O. Box 1329, Bangor 04402

Drop off: at front desk of the Buck Street entrance, Bangor Daily News, 491 Main St., Bangor

Bangor

Personal finance class

Financing Your Future, a six-session class exploring attitudes and behaviors with money, will be held 5-7:30 p.m. Mondays, starting March 9, at Women, Work, & Community in Bangor.

The classes will help participants become more comfortable with money, assess one's current financial situation, learn basics of money management and set personal financial goals.

Classes are free and confidential. Registration is required; space is limited. To register or to get more information, call 262-7842 or 800-442-2092.

Raffle for senior center

As the temperature struggles to get above the freezing mark and the snow piles up, the folks at the Hammond Street Senior Center have just the ticket to help jump-start summer planning.

The center is raffling two summer vacations — a New England golf package, and a \$500 cash prize — to raise money for the programs and amenities it provides for older residents of the Bangor region.

First prize is a weeklong vacation on Cape Cod at the Harbor Walk by InSeason Resorts — accommodations for Aug. 14-21, a queen suite with private kitchen and bath and a studio suite with private kitchen and bath.

Second prize is a weeklong vacation at another InSeason Resort, The Falls at Ogunquit. Accommodations include a one-bedroom suite with kitchen, bath and fireplace, July 10-17.

Third place is a golfer's dream — 10 rounds of golf at a selection

of fine New England golf courses to be used through Dec. 31.

Fourth prize is \$500 in cash, always good, anytime, anywhere.

Until June 2, center members and staff will sell tickets for \$5 each or a booklet of five tickets for \$20. The drawing for all three summer getaways and the cash prize will be held at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 2, at the Senior Center.

Tickets may be purchased 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday at Hammond Street Senior Center, 2 Hammond St. Tickets may be ordered by calling 262-5532; or e-mailing deannap@hammond-street.org. Cash, credit cards and checks are accepted.

Brewer

Library activities

March activities are planned for Brewer Public Library:

- Book club, 6 p.m. Monday, March 2.
- Storytime, Dr. Seuss, 10:30 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, March 3-4.
- Music with Sarah, 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 3.
- Book club, 10:30 a.m. Friday, March 6.
- Storytime, Food Galore, 10:30 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, March 10-11.
- Storytime, St. Patrick's Day, 10:30 Tuesday and Wednesday, March 17-18.
- Fun with Food, 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 17.
- Storytime, Spring is Here, 10:30 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, March 24-25.
- Texas Fun with Rachel, 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 24.
- Chill Out reading logs due, Monday, March 30.
- Storytime, Little Lost Robin, 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 31.
- Family pizza party, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 31.

Old Town-Orono

Benefit phone-a-thon for animal orphanage

The Old Town-Orono Animal Orphanage will hold a phone-a-thon 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, March 7. Volunteers will dial for dollars for three hours with the

hope of raising much-needed funds, which will go directly to animal care.

"This is a great fundraiser for us," said Roberta Fowler, animal orphanage board president. "We wanted to alert the public that we would be telemarketing for a few hours. We hope everybody answers their phones. Or people can call us on Saturday at 866-0748 or 827-8777, and we will take their pledge."

The animal orphanage is a no-kill shelter that takes in strays and works tirelessly to find them loving homes. But this comes at a cost and fundraising is paramount to the survival of the organization, Fowler said. This year is especially important as, sadly, some people have turned out their animals because they can no longer afford to keep them. The fortunate ones end up at the animal orphanage.

As prices rise, so does the cost of the care and feeding of these homeless pets. The public's support is crucial.

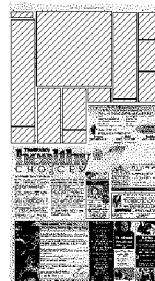
Areawide

New garden publication

University of Maine Cooperative Extension has announced publication of Maine Home Garden News, a statewide newsletter designed to equip home gardeners with practical information on successfully growing vegetables, fruits and herbs, as well as flowers, lawns, shrubs and trees.

The newsletter will be published monthly, March through October, and will be available in both print and electronic forms. Subscriptions to the electronic version are free; subscriptions to the print version cost \$10 to cover printing and mailing costs for the eight issues. Subscribe at extension.umaine.edu/garden-news or call 800-287-0274.

Maine Home Garden News is being developed in response to the sharp increase in requests UM Extension has experienced for information on gardening. Another indica-



tion of growing interest is the 20- to 30-percent increase in sales by garden seed companies.

Maine Home Garden News will include seasonal tips and research-based articles on all aspects of gardening. The writers will be UM Extension specialists, educators and horticulture professionals, as well as Master Gardener volunteers from Maine. Professor Richard Brzozowski will serve as editor.

Statewide

Volunteerism photo contest
 The Maine Commission for Community Service announced a photo contest celebrating volunteerism in Maine. The theme is "Volunteers in Action." Individuals are invited to submit a photo depicting volunteers serving the community. Entries are due by Wednesday, March 18. For contest rules and information on how to enter, visit www.maineservicecommission.gov. Winning entries and honorable mentions will be displayed at the State House dur-

ing the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards ceremony on Tuesday, April 21.

For the past 22 years, the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards have celebrated and recognized the exemplary work of Maine's most dedicated citizens. This award program, administered jointly by the Maine Commission for Community Service and the Governor's Office, recognizes and honors the contributions of Maine's volunteers while inspiring others to follow their example.



HERMON PINEWOOD DERBY

Hermon Cub Scout Pack 25 held its Pinewood Derby on Feb. 7 at Hermon Baptist Church. Cub Scouts designed, shaped, decorated and fine-tuned their cars to race and "do your best." With the derby officiated by Bear Den Leader Kevin Hartford and Pastor Matt Bentley, cars were judged in several categories — Most Fuel Efficient, Most Patriotic, Scoutiest, Best Paint Job and Most Creative. Each car raced four heats, with times recorded and averaged. Winning for the fastest cars were (from left) Wolf Kent Raymond, first; Bear Matt Sforza, second; Tiger Elias Pagurko, third; and (not pictured) Wolf Nathan Raymond, runner up. The speediest cars and their racers will compete in the Katahdin Area Council's District Championships at the Scout Skill Show on Saturday, March 28, at the Airport Mall in Bangor.



Panel seeks grant reviewers

KENNEBEC JOURNAL *Morning Sentinel*

03/05/2009

AUGUSTA -- The Maine Commission for Community Service is accepting applications for grant peer reviewers.

Peer reviewers read grant applications and participate as part of a committee to select grant recipients.

Applicants' areas of expertise should include national service, public safety, volunteer management, environmental or energy conservation programs and nonprofit management.

Participants will need internet access, a phone line and voice-over-internet protocol. Registration is required. For information, call 287-1588.

Verticality

Conditions

Offer



Jacob Aman doing fish sampling in the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve. Photo courtesy of the Maine Conservation Corps

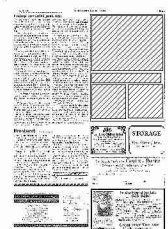
Local man serving as environmental teacher with conservation corps

WELLS—On January 5, the Maine Conservation Corps welcomed Jacob Aman to serve a second year as an environmental teacher and AmeriCorps volunteer at the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve in Wells. The MCC places AmeriCorps volunteers throughout Maine to complete conservation and environmental education projects, according to a press release.

Aman is the son of Tony Aman of Penobscot and Sally Aman of Brooklin, and is a graduate of George Stevens Academy in Blue Hill, as well as the University of Massachusetts, Amherst,

where he received a degree in human ecology. Some of the projects that Aman is currently working on include coordinating 14 teams of volunteers who monitor sand erosion in York County, developing a river restoration plan to reestablish migratory fish species, and developing the Seacoast Watershed Information Manager Web site, <http://swim.wellsreserve.org>.

To learn more about the Wells research reserve, visit www.nerrs.noaa.gov/WellsBay/welcome.html. More information about the MCC can be found at www.maine.gov/doc/parks/mcc.



Volunteer photo contest announced

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For the past 22 years, the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards have celebrated and recognized the exemplary work of Maine's most dedicated citizens. The award program, administered jointly by the Maine Commission for Community Service and the governor's office, recognizes and honors the valuable contributions of Maine's extraordinary volunteers while inspiring others to follow their example. It is our sincere hope that photo submissions will serve to further highlight the impact of volunteer service on the state of Maine.

The Maine Commission for Community Service builds capacity and sustainability in Maine's volunteer sector by funding service programs, developing managers of volunteers, raising awareness of the scope and impact of the sector, and encouraging an ethic of service.



Photo contest focuses on volunteers

*Submitted By Rochelle Runge
Commission for Community Service*

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To learn more about this, visit www.maineservicecommission.gov.



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Photo Contest

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This year's theme is volunteers in action. Contestants are invited to submit a photo depicting volunteers serving the community. Entries are due by March 18. For full contest rules and information on how to enter, visit www.maineservicecommission.gov.

Winning entries and honorable mentions will be displayed at the State House during the governor's volunteer service awards on April 21.



State seeking snapshots of volunteerism

The Maine Commission for Community Service is currently running a photography contest celebrating volunteerism in the State of Maine.

Residents of Sanford and its surrounding communities and those throughout the state are invited to submit a picture depicting volunteers serving their community.

Entries are due by March 18.

For full contest rules and information, visit online at www.maineservicecommission.gov.

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Printing imperfections present during scanning

